



Colorado Crop Progress

**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

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Agricultural Summary: Colorado received below average amounts of moisture and temperatures were about 5 degrees above normal for this time of year. Topsoil moisture is diminishing due to the warm, dry and windy conditions across the state. The mountain snowpack was 56 percent of the average, 18 percentage points below last week. Farmers were able to work 6.6 days in the field, allowing spring plantings to continually gain momentum.

TOP SOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	2	25	69	4
Last Week	2	19	75	4
Last Year	25	43	31	1

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	6	28	60	6
Last Week	10	25	59	6
Last Year	24	45	30	1

Small Grains: The winter wheat crop was reported as being 88 percent jointed and 24 percent headed last week, with the crop in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring barley was 98 percent seeded and 77 percent emerged by week's end and rated in mostly good to excellent condition. Spring wheat was 87 percent planted, 11 points above last year at this time, and 63 percent emerged, 15 percent above last year. The crop was rated in good to excellent condition.

Row Crops: The 2009 corn crop progressed to 63 percent planted and 23 percent emerged, while sorghum was 8 percent planted. Dry onions were 99 percent planted and in mostly good condition. Sugarbeets were 90 percent planted and 35 percent up to stand, 16 points higher than last week. Summer potatoes were 45 percent planted, 17 points below the 5 year average, and 11 percent emerged. Fall potatoes planted increased 26 points over last week to 65 percent. Farmers had 9 percent of the sunflower crop planted by week's end.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending May 17, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat					
This Week	1	7	20	47	25
Last Year	18	29	32	19	2
Spring Barley					
This Week	0	0	18	45	37
Last Year	2	8	26	40	24
Spring Wheat					
This Week	0	0	28	39	33
Last Year	3	11	36	31	19

Pasture, Range, and Hay: Conditions for pasture and range across Colorado were rated mostly fair to good. The alfalfa crop ended the week in mostly good condition with 4 percent of the first cutting complete.

Livestock: Ninety-six percent of cows have calved since January 1st while 96 percent of the ewes have lambed during the same time frame. Death losses for cattle were rated average last week, while sheep death losses were slightly below average. Stored feed supplies were rated slightly above average for this time of year.

PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week ending May 17, 2009

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture & Range-2009	1	16	47	33	3
Prev. Year - 2008	14	29	39	17	1
5-Year Avg.	11	20	38	27	4

Spring 2009 Calving and Lambing

	2009	5-Yr Avg.
Cows Calved since Jan 1	96	98
Ewes Lambled since Jan 1	96	98

COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

Development Ratings for Week Ending May 17, 2009

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
Winter Wheat				
Jointed	88	79	88	92
Headed	24	10	24	36
Spring Barley				
Planted	98	85	97	98
Emerged	77	55	76	75
Spring Wheat				
Planted	87	70	76	84
Emerged	63	36	48	49
Sugarbeets				
Planted	90	78	90	97
Up to Stand	35	19	18	36
Summer Potatoes				
Planted	45	35	54	62
Emerged	11	4	13	22
Fall Potatoes				
Planted	65	39	57	61
Corn				
Planted	63	44	78	74
Emerged	23	8	26	27
Dry Onions				
Planted	99	97	94	98
Sorghum				
Planted	8	5	10	18
Sunflowers, All				
Planted	9	3	13	8
Dry Beans				
Planted	2	0	0	4
Alfalfa				
1 st Cutting	4	2	8	7

COLORADO CONDITION RATINGS 1/

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	0	2	17	55	26
Sugarbeets	0	1	6	76	17
Dry Onions	0	0	9	79	12
Livestock	1	2	20	65	12

1/ Crop condition ratings pertain to emerged plants early in the growing season through plants remaining to be harvested late in the season.

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